



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)



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Media Contact: Vince Matthews

### **Idaho May Red Meat Production Down 74 Percent from Last Year**

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for May 2012 totaled 3.6 million pounds, down 74 percent from May of last year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Accumulated red meat production for the January-May 2012 period totaled 17.2 million pounds, down 75 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.18 billion pounds in May, up 7 percent from the 3.91 billion pounds produced in May 2011. Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.88 million head, up 2 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,280 pounds. Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 1 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 59,200 head, down 3 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from last year, at 295 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.93 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.28 million head, up 9 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was up 5 percent from May 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 180,400 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 151 pounds, up 8 pounds from May a year ago. January to May 2012 commercial red meat production was 20.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 3 percent.

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